

REMARKS

Applicant, through his attorney, gratefully acknowledges the courtesy of a personal interview that was extended by Patent Examiner Peggy Neils on December 2, 2003.

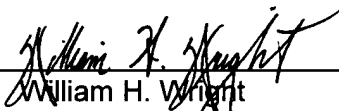
During the course of the aforementioned interview, a proposed amendment was presented for the purpose of discussion and comparison with the references of record in general and in particular with respect to the Willman patent.

Based on the issues that were raised during these discussions, it was subsequently agreed that original claim 1 only had to be amended to specifically state that the projection must extend "entirely" into a selected one of the plurality of lateral grooves in order to define patentable subject matter over the current references of record.

Based on the foregoing situation, it is sincerely believed that in the absence of more pertinent prior art, the claims as now presented clearly define patentable subject matter; and, a formal Notice of Allowance based thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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